THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE L.NARASIMHA REDDY

WRIT PETITION No.26995 of 2005

Dated 20-12-2005

Between:

M.Venkataiah.

.. **PETITIONER**

AND

The Chief General Manager,

(HRD), APNPDCL,

A.P.Transco., Hanamkonda, Warangal District and others.

.. RESPONDENTS

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

ORDER

The petitioner is employed as a Lineman in the A.P. Northern Power Distribution Company Limited, Adilabad Division, Adilabad. The third respondent herein placed the petitioner under suspension through memo dated 22-11-2003 on the ground that the petitioner was caught red handed by the A.C.B. officials on 19-11-2003 while receiving bribe. The matter is said to be pending in the concerned A.C.B. Court. The petitioner states that charge-sheet has not yet been filed in the case. He submits that though more than two years have elapsed, the respondents have not reviewed the case, places reliance upon G.O.Ms.No.86, dated 08-03-1994, issued by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, in its General Administration Department, and seeks appropriate directions.

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Standing Counsel for the respondents.

It is true that the Government of Andhra Pradesh in its General Administration Department issued G.O.Ms.No.86, dated 08-03-1994, directing that the cases of employees, who were placed under suspension, must be reviewed every six months and it should be ensured that the period of suspension does not exceed two years. A note of caution was added to the effect that incase the charges are grave, the period of suspension can exceed two years also. However, it is not clear as to whether the respondent company had incorporated such a provision in its service rules or is following it, as a matter of policy. It is too early for this court to express any opinion in this regard.

The petitioner claims to have made representation on 24-11-2005. The third respondent can consider the same and pass appropriate orders.

Hence, the writ petition is disposed of, directing the third respondent to pass appropriate orders, on the representation made by the petitioner on 24-11-2005,

within a period of six weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. No order as to costs.

_____

20-12-2005

Prv